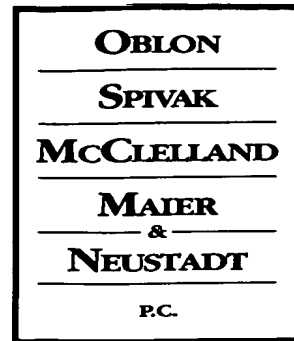




Docket No.: 196727US0

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231



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RE: Application Serial No.: 09/650,083
Applicants: Takehiro TSUTSUMI, et al.
Filing Date: August 29, 2000
For: WATER-BASED INK
Group Art Unit: 1713
Examiner: EGWIM, K.C.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT (2 pp.)

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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DEC - 2 2002
TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

DOCKET NO.: 196727US0



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

TAKEHIRO TSUTSUMI ET AL

: EXAMINER: EGWIM, K. C.

SERIAL NO: 09/650,083 :

FILED: AUGUST 29, 2000

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1713

FOR: WATER-BASED INK :

#11
Jude
12/8/02

TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

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RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

This is responsive to the Election Requirement mailed October 28, 2002.

REMARKS

The Examiner has required election between patentably distinct species:

- a. wherein the R¹ and R³ groups represent monovalent aliphatic hydrocarbon groups having 2 to 6 carbon atoms selected from the group consisting of ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, t-butyl, hexyl and isohexyl;
- b. wherein the R¹ and R³ groups represent monovalent alicyclic groups having 3 to 6 carbon atoms or monovalent aromatic groups having 6 to 12 carbon atoms.

Applicants hereby elect a. wherein the R¹ and R³ groups represent monovalent aliphatic hydrocarbon groups having 2 to 6 carbon atoms as set forth above.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

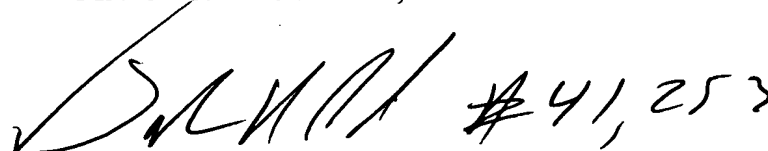
The Election Requirement is traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 5 does not limit R¹ and R³ to monovalent aliphatic hydrocarbon groups having 2 to 6 carbon atoms as defined in Claim 5, but Claim 5 refers back to Claim 1 and merely further defines what is meant by monovalent aliphatic hydrocarbon groups having 2 to 6 carbon atoms. Therefore, Claim 5 still retains all the definitions for R¹ and R³ set forth in Claim 1 and is not limited to a single species of R¹ and R³ being monovalent aliphatic hydrocarbon groups having 2 to 6 carbon atoms as defined in Claim 5, exclusively.

It is submitted that the Election Requirement is improper and should be withdrawn and Claims 1 through 7 examined on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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